(c) Thermal Power Station-I. Expansion project is under implementation by NLC and the generation capacity of NLC TPS-I is likely to increase by 420 MW in 2002.

As per the capacity addition programme recommended by the Working Group on Power, TPS-II Expansion project (2 x 250 MW) has been identified for 10th Plan.

(d) and (e) Allocation of power from above expansion projects will be made to all the States of Southern Region.

According to NLC, Department of Coal Power Purchase Agreements have been signed by all the States of Southern Region except Andhra Pradesh for purchase of power from NLC TPS-I Expansion project (2 x 210 MW) as per following distribution, excluding NLC's internal consumption of 9.5%

Tamil Nadu	152 MW
Andhra Pradesh	103 MW
Karnataka	65 MW
Kerala	53 MW
Pondicherry	8 MW

Weekly monitoring of working of Power Projects

*707. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have emphasized and urged upon the State Governments and its undertakings in power sector to monitor the progress of work on weekly basis of all ongoing power projects;

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Governments and its undertakings in this regard;

(c) whether Government's advice is being acted upon; and

(d) the States which are showing laxity in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (d) In order to ensure that power projects targeted for capacity

addition in the 10th Plan are commissioned without any time and cost overruns, the Ministry of Power has put in place a strong monitoring mechanism which includes weekly reviews.

A Standing Committee for monitoring of power projects called the Power Projects Monitoring Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (Power). The other members on the Committee are the CMDs of all CPSUs concerned, Members of Central Electricity Authority and all Joint Secretaries in the Ministry of Power. In order to ensure a proper feedback from the States and the private sector, a sub-committee in CEA under member (Planning) has been constituted to assist the Power Projects Monitoring Committee. Region specific teams headed by Chief Engineers of CEA have also been set up to assist the sub-committee.

The Minister of Power has requested Chief Ministers of the States to constitute Project Monitoring Committees at the State level to ensure achievement of the capacity addition targets in the state sector.

Watershed programmes in Andhra Pradesh

*708. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments are implementing major watershed development programmes in Andhra Pradesh to contain the declining water levels in the rural parts of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether village ponds have also been constructed in the State under these programmes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (d) The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing three major Watershed Development Programmes, namely Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programmes (DDP) in Andhra Pradesh on watershed basis in accordance with the Guidelines for Watershed Development w.e.f. 1.4.1995. Since then, 36 projects